

SUITE 200  
215 SOUTH WASHINGTON SQUARE  
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48933

September 2, 2003

Corbin R. Davis, Esq  
Clerk of the Court  
Michigan Supreme Court  
925 W. Ottawa Street  
Lansing, MI 48933

Re: ADM 2002-34

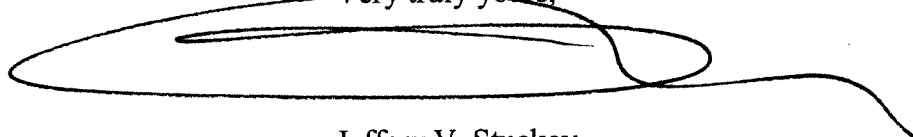
Mr. Davis:

I write in opposition to the proposed amendments to MCR 7.212 concerning the reduction of time in which to file appellant and reply briefs, as well as the elimination of stipulations for extensions of time.

Although I am sympathetic to efforts at delay reduction, stipulations for extensions and motions for extensions are an essential part of appellate practice for many matters. Extensions in complex civil matters are, in my experience and judgment, the norm and are necessary. Further, in many complex agency appeals, the briefing schedule commences upon the filing of the claim of appeal because the transcripts have already been filed. Extensions are routinely required for a thorough review of an extensive record and subsequent briefing of the issues. A 28-day extension period, whether by stipulation or by motion, should be retained.

While the Court may wish to consider some curtailment of the second 28-day extension permitted by motion, I oppose reduction of the briefing timeline, as well as the elimination of stipulations for extensions of time.

Very truly yours,



Jeffery V. Stuckey

JVS/scl

